



Case 7130

#21  
H. J. G. G.  
10/29/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : October 23, 2002  
Richard McNally et al. :  
Serial No. 09/162,402 : Group Art Unit: 3713  
Filed: September 28, 1998 : Examiner: Nguyen, Binh-An D.  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR :  
ILLUSTRATING U.S.-STYLE :  
FOOTBALL GAMES :

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration from the final rejection of claims 1-56, 61 and 62.

Applicant's attorney wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesy of an interview conducted with Examiner Nguyen and Supervisory Patent Examiner Martin-Wallace.

The claims were rejected over Jensen in view of Shur, after the Examiner had indicated them allowable over the same references. Applicant believes that the claims remain patentable.

In each of the broad claims, the plurality of symbols representing at least two distinct and individual plays that occurred during a drive are disposed along a path representing at least a portion of the drive such that each of the at least two distinct and individual plays can be distinguished from one

another. In Jensen, the lines shown represent the drives for a respective team. In one such drive, a punt is indicated along with the drive that occurred prior to the punt, which would include at least three plays since a team has four downs to move the ball at least ten yards to retain possession. In some of the lines or paths that represent a drive, only one distinct and individual play can be distinguished, which is a punt. No other play is individually identified, since the plays prior to the punt are lumped together as a single line representing several plays. Since a team is allotted four downs, at least three plays, not one, would occur prior to a punt. Accordingly, along any single path which represents a drive, there are no two plays that can be distinguished from one another. Only one play, which is the punt along that drive, is identified while the other plays are lumped together. For example, in the Fourth-Quarter Drives box of Jensen, there are shown two paths where only one play can be identified, which is a punt. One drive constitutes three plays for 14 yards and a 59 yard punt and another drive constitutes three plays for 9 yards and a 50 yard punt. The three plays that made up 14 yards or the other three plays that made up 9 yards are not broken down to individual plays so as to show how many yards are attributable to each individual play.

A play is a single possession or down of the ball while a drive is a summation of plays. The drive lines shown in Jensen do not convey information on the nature of each play, except where a

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punt is involved, in which case only one play is distinguishable, not two.

In view of the above, it is asserted that the Office Action mailed on June 18, 2002, indicating allowability of claims 1-56, 61 and 62 is correct. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should that be incorrect, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2105 and inform the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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